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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN DIVISION

JENNY LISETTE FLORES, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

- vs -

WILLIAM BARR, ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES, *et al.*,

Defendants.

) Case CV 85-4544 DMG-AGR<sub>x</sub>

) AMENDED NOTICE OF MOTION AND  
) MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS'  
) FEES; MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT  
) OF MOTION

) Hearing June 28, 2019 9:30 AM

) [HON. DOLLY M. GEE]

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NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION

To Defendants and their Attorneys of Record:

Plaintiffs hereby give notice that on June 28, 2019, at 9:30 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, they will and hereby do move the Court for an award of attorneys' fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), for work performed opposing Defendants' *Ex Parte* Application for Limited Relief from the Settlement Agreement, resolved by this Court's Order Denying Defendants' *Ex Parte* Application for Limited Relief from Settlement Agreement [Dkt. # 455]. Plaintiffs allege (1) they are the prevailing party; (2) the position of Defendants, both before and throughout this litigation, was without substantial justification; and (3) no special circumstances make an award of fees unjust.

This motion is made following the conference of counsel pursuant to L.R.7-3 which took place on May 31, 2019. This Amended Notice of Motion and Motion is timely, in accordance with the Court's Minute Order allowing refiling without prejudice after compliance [Dkt. # 546].

///

1           This application is based on the annexed Memorandum of Points and  
2 Authorities, the exhibits filed concurrently herewith, and the record of proceedings  
3 herein.  
4

5 Dated: June 7, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

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7 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW  
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/s/ Peter Schey

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1 I. INTRODUCTION

2 Plaintiffs apply for an award of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this  
3 Court and in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to prosecute Defendants' *Ex Parte*  
4 Application for Limited Relief from the Settlement Agreement ("Settlement").  
5

6 On July 9, 2018, the district court denied Defendants' *Ex Parte* Application  
7 for Limited Relief from the Settlement Agreement finding that the *Ex Parte*  
8 Application is procedurally improper and wholly without merit. Order Denying  
9 Defendants' *Ex Parte* Application for Limited Relief from Settlement Agreement  
10 [Dkt. # 455] ("July 9, 2018, Order").  
11

12 Plaintiffs now apply pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. §  
13 2412(d) ("EAJA"), for an award of attorney's fees and costs incurred in securing  
14 the July 9, 2018, Order, in the total amount of \$42,359.00.  
15

16 The EAJA allows litigants to recover fees and costs in actions certain against  
17 the United States, thus encouraging the vindication of rights by persons who would  
18 otherwise be deterred from challenging governmental action because of the expense  
19 of litigation. Pub. L. No. 96-481, 94 Stat. 2325. In pertinent part, the EAJA  
20 provides:  
21

22 Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, a court shall award to a  
23 prevailing party other than the United States fees and other expenses, in  
24 addition to any costs awarded pursuant to subsection (a), incurred by that  
25 party in any civil action (other than cases sounding in tort), including  
26 proceedings for judicial review of agency action, brought by or against the  
27 United States in any court having jurisdiction of that action, unless the court  
28 finds that the position of the United States was substantially justified or that



1 special circumstances make an award unjust.

2 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A).

3  
4 As will be seen, Plaintiffs satisfy all requirements for an award of EAJA fees  
5 and costs; the Court should accordingly grant the instant motion and award fees and  
6 costs as herein requested.  
7

8 **II. PLAINTIFFS QUALIFY FOR AN AWARD OF EAJA FEES AND COSTS.**

9 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) “eligibility for a fee award in any civil  
10 action requires: (1) that the claimant be ‘a prevailing party’; (2) that the  
11 Government’s position was not ‘substantially justified’, (3) that no ‘special  
12 circumstances make an award unjust’; and (4) pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), that  
13 any fee application be submitted to the court within 30 days of final judgment in the  
14 action and be supported by an itemized statement.” *Ibrahim v. U.S. Department of*  
15 *Homeland Sec.*, 912 F.3d 1146, 1167 (9th Cir. 2019) (en banc) (quoting *Comm’r,*  
16 *I.N.S. v. Jean*, 496 U.S. 154, 158 (1990)).  
17  
18  
19

20 Once this showing is made, the burden shifts to the Government to prove that  
21 its position, both before and during the litigation, was substantially justified or that  
22 special circumstances make an award of attorney’s fees unjust. *Scarborough v.*  
23 *Principi*, 541 U.S. 401, 416-17, 124 S. Ct. 1856, 158 L. Ed. 2d 674 (2004).  
24

25 **A. Plaintiffs are prevailing parties.**

26 Under the EAJA, a party prevails when it has been granted “some relief by a  
27 court.” *Buchannon Bd. & Care Home, Inc. v. West Virginia Dep’t of Health and*  
28

1 *Human Res.*, 532 U.S. 598, 603, 121 S. Ct. 1835, 149 L. Ed. 2d 855 (2001).<sup>1</sup> To  
2 prove prevailing party status, an EAJA petitioner must establish: (1) a “material  
3 alteration of the legal relationship of the parties,” and (2) a “judicial imprimatur on  
4 the change.” *Id.* at 604-05.

6 A party prevails when it has obtained an enforceable settlement or consent  
7 decree, and for work to achieve compliance with a settlement’s terms . *Prison Legal*  
8 *News v. Schwarzenegger*, 608 F.3d 446, 451-52 (9th Cir. 2010); *Keith v. Volpe*,  
9 833 F.2d 850, 857 (9th Cir. 1987); *see also Balla v. Idaho*, 677 F.3d 910, 918 (9th  
10 Cir. 2012) (work for “compliance monitoring” of settlement compensable).

13 The district court’s July 9, 2018, Order denied, “(1) an exemption from the  
14 *Flores* Agreement’s release provision so that Immigration and Customs  
15 Enforcement (‘ICE’) may detain alien minors who have arrived with their parents  
16 or legal guardian together in ICE family residential facilities, and (2) an exemption  
17 from the *Flores* Agreement’s state licensure requirement,” as being “procedurally  
18 improper and wholly without merit.” *Id.* at 1 and 7. Plaintiffs clearly prevailed and  
19 accordingly satisfy the first requirement for an EAJA fee award.

22 **B. Plaintiffs’ net worth is far less than \$2,000,000.**

24 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(2)(B)(i), a party’s “net worth [must] not

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26 <sup>1</sup> Although *Buckhannon* involved non-EAJA fee-shifting statutes, this Court has  
27 held that the requirements of a prevailing party announced in that decision are  
28 applicable to EAJA awards as well. *Perez-Arellano v. Smith*, 279 F.3d 791, 793  
(9th Cir. 2002).

1 exceed \$2,000,000 at the time the civil action was filed...”

2       The original plaintiffs in this action were indigent at the time this action  
3 commenced. Declaration of Peter Schey, May 28, 2019, ¶ 11 (“Schey Dec.”).  
4 Further, it is virtually self-evident that plaintiff class members are generally  
5 indigent as well. By definition, they are immigrant or refugee youth in federal  
6 custody because the Government wishes to remove them. Settlement ¶¶ 10- 11; *see*  
7  
8 *also* Schey Dec. ¶ 11 (*Flores* plaintiff class members are detained and indigent).

9       Plaintiffs accordingly meet the second requirement for an EAJA fee award.  
10  
11 *See Cobell v. Norton*, 407 F. Supp. 2d 140, 148-49 (D. D.C. 2005) (“affidavits  
12 signed by the class representatives, attesting to the fact that their net worth fell  
13 within EAJA statutory guidelines at the time the litigation was initiated ... amply  
14 satisfy the requirements of the statute for the entire class.”).

15  
16  
17       **C. EAJA fees may be awarded for work to protect a consent decree.**

18       In *Pennsylvania v. Delaware Valley Citizens’ Council for Clean Air*, 478  
19 U.S. 546, 558-559, 106 S. Ct. 3088, 92 L.Ed.2d 439 (1986), the plaintiff obtained a  
20 consent decree and thereafter conducted additional litigation and administrative  
21 advocacy to protect that decree. The Court held the plaintiff entitled to recover  
22 attorney’s fees and costs for this post-settlement work. 478 U.S. at 558-60.  
23

24       Following *Delaware Valley*, numerous courts have affirmed litigants’ right to  
25 recover attorney’s fees and costs for work to enforce court-approved settlements.  
26  
27 *E.g., Keith v. Volpe*, 833 F.2d 850, 857 (9th Cir. 1987) (“the district court here ‘was  
28

1 entitled to believe that relief [for the plaintiffs under the consent decree] would  
2 occur more speedily and reliably’ if the [plaintiffs] engaged in these monitoring  
3 activities, and this post-judgment monitoring by the [plaintiffs] was, therefore, ‘a  
4 necessary aspect of plaintiffs’ “prevailing” in the case.”); *Jeff D. v. Andrus*, 899  
5 F.2d 753, 765 (9th Cir. 1989) (plaintiffs entitled to attorney’s fees for work  
6 subsequent to the settlement despite waiving pre-settlement fees; “issues in these  
7 appeals are separate from the settlement of the underlying litigation and the waiver  
8 of attorney’s fees in the settlement does not affect our disposition here.”).<sup>2</sup>

11  
12 **D. Defendants’ position lacked substantial justification.**

13 Because Plaintiffs both prevailed and meet the EAJA’s net worth standard,  
14 “an award of fees is mandatory under the EAJA unless the government’s position is  
15 substantially justified or special circumstances exist that make an award of fees  
16 unjust.” *Love v. Reilly*, 924 F.2d 1492, 1495 (9th Cir. 1991). Defendants must carry  
17 the burden of proof with respect to both factors. *Id.*; *see also Ibrahim*, 912 F.3d at  
18 1167; *Oregon Environmental Council v. Kunzman*, 817 F.2d 484, 498 (9th Cir.  
19 1987); *United States v. 22249 Dolorosa St.*, 190 F.3d 977, 982 (9th Cir. 1999).<sup>3</sup>

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23 <sup>2</sup> In both *Keith* and *Jeff D.*, the court reviewed fees awarded under 42 U.S.C. §  
24 1988. However, identical principles apply to an award of post-judgment attorney’s  
25 fees under the EAJA. *Bullfrog Films, Inc. v. Wick*, 959 F.2d 782, 786 (9th Cir.  
1992).

26 <sup>3</sup> In evaluating the Government’s showing, courts consider conduct both prior to  
27 and during litigation. *Gutierrez v. Barnhart*, 274 F.3d 1255, 1259 (9th Cir. 2001)  
28 (“Thus we ‘must focus on two questions: first, whether the government was  
substantially justified in taking its original action; and, second, whether the

1 “The test for whether the government is substantially justified is one of  
2 ‘reasonableness.’” *Gonzalez v. Free Speech Coal.*, 408 F. 3d 613, 618 (9th Cir.  
3 2005). “Put another way, substantially justified means there is a dispute over which  
4 ‘reasonable minds could differ.’” *Id.* (quoting *League of Women Voters v. FCC*,  
5 798 F.2d 1255, 1260 (9th Cir. 1986)); *see also Pierce v. Underwood*, 487 U.S. 552,  
6 566 n.2 (1988) (position can be substantially justified “even though it is not correct  
7 . . . if it has a reasonable basis in law and fact”).

8  
9  
10 In analyzing the reasonableness of the Government’s position, a court  
11 considers the totality of the circumstances, which incorporates both the underlying  
12 governmental action and the Government’s trial court position. *Gutierrez v.*  
13 *Barnhart*, 274 F.3d 1255, 1258 (9th Cir. 2001) (“This we ‘must focus on two  
14 questions: first, whether the government was substantially justified in taking its  
15 original action; and, second, whether the government was substantially justified in  
16 defending the validity of the action in court.’”); *Kali v. Bowen*, 854 F.2d 329, 332  
17 (9th Cir. 1998) (inquiry includes whether both the original action and the defense of  
18 the action was substantially justified); *see also Rawlings v. Heckler*, 725 F.2d 1192,  
19

20  
21  
22  
23  
24 government was substantially justified in defending the validity of the action in  
court.”).

25 “To show substantial justification for [its] position, the [Government] has the  
26 burden of establishing that the conduct had a ‘reasonable basis both in law *and*  
27 fact.’” *Kali v. Bowen*, 854 F.2d 329, 332 (9th Cir. 1988) (quoting *Pierce v.*  
28 *Underwood*, 487 U.S. 552, 565, 108 S. Ct. 2541, 101 L.Ed.2d 490 (1988))  
(emphasis added).

1 1196 (9th Cir. 1984). Moreover, “the EAJA – like other fee-shifting statutes –  
2 favors treating a case as an inclusive whole, rather than as atomized line-items.”  
3  
4 *Ibrahim*, 912 F.3d at 1169 (quoting *Jean*, 496 U.S. at 161-62).

5 Plaintiffs have alleged that Defendants’ position was without substantial  
6 justification and that no special circumstances make a fee award unjust. Such  
7 allegations suffice to shift the burden to Defendants to show that their position was  
8 substantially justified or that special circumstances would make a fee award unjust.<sup>4</sup>  
9  
10 *Scarborough v. Principi*, *supra*, 541 U.S. at 416-17; *In re Mgndichian*, 312 F.  
11 Supp. 2d 1250, 1255 (C.D. Cal. 2003) (prevailing party need only “by alleg[e] that  
12 the government's position was not substantially justified and that no special  
13 circumstances exist that make an award unjust.”); 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) (“A party  
14  
15

16 <sup>4</sup> In all events, Defendants’ attempted to create (1) an exemption from the *Flores*  
17 Agreement’s release provision so that Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
18 (“ICE”) may detain minors who have arrived with their parents or legal guardian  
19 together in ICE family residential facilities, and (2) an exemption from the *Flores*  
20 Agreement’s state licensure requirement. Defendants’ positions were without  
21 justification, substantial or otherwise. *See e.g.*, July 09 Order at 1-2 (“Defendants’  
22 *Ex Parte* Application is a thinly veiled motion for reconsideration without any  
23 meaningful effort to comply with the requirements of Local Rule 7-18”). On July  
24 24, 2015, the Court denied Defendants’ motion seeking to modify the *Flores*  
25 Agreement “on the same grounds now raised anew in Defendants’ *Ex Parte*  
26 Application.” *Id.* (citation omitted). In short, Defendants have run afoul of Local  
27 Rule 7-18 because the *Ex Parte* Application “repeat[s] . . . oral or written argument  
28 made in support of the earlier Motion to Amend C.D. Ca. L.R. 7-18.” *Id.* Even if  
Local Rule 7-18 did not bar Defendants’ *Ex Parte* Application, “it would still fail  
under the Rule 60(b) analysis. The Court’s July 24, 2015 Order analyzed in great  
detail the relevant *Flores* Agreement language and applicable legal authorities,  
responding to the same changed circumstances that the parties could not have  
foreseen at the time of their Agreement, it is unnecessary to replot the same  
familiar territory.” *Id.* (citation omitted).

1 seeking an award of fees ... shall also allege that the position of the United States  
2 was not substantially justified.”).

3  
4 Nevertheless, it is clear in this case that the Government’s arguments for  
5 exemptions from the *Flores* Settlement lacked substantial justification.

6 First, Defendants “deterrence” argument has previously been considered and  
7 rejected by the district court.

8  
9 Second, Defendants’ influx argument has previously been considered and  
10 rejected by this Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

11  
12 Third, Defendants’ statistics and other available evidence shows that  
13 Defendants were not in May-June 2018 facing an unanticipated surge in family  
14 apprehensions warranting a modification of the *Flores* Settlement.

15  
16 Fourth, Defendants’ proposed “narrow modification” to eliminate  
17 accompanied class member’s right to prompt release was not a “narrow”  
18 modification nor was it necessary to allow families to stay together. Paragraph 14  
19 of the Settlement provides an alternative to detention for a child if a parent decides  
20 it is in his or her child’s best interest to be released under Paragraph 14.

21  
22 Fifth, Defendants’ proposed “narrow modification” to eliminate the option of  
23 class members to be house in licensed facilities was not a “narrow” modification  
24 nor was it necessary to allow families to stay together. The district court had  
25 already ruled: “The purpose of the licensing provision is to provide class members  
26 the essential protection of regular and comprehensive oversight by an independent  
27  
28



1 child welfare agency.” Chambers Order [Dkt. # 177] at 14. Defendants offered no  
2 significant change in circumstances warranting revision of Paragraph 19 of the  
3 Agreement so that it’s terms would no longer apply to accompanied children.  
4

5 As the district court pointed out, “Defendants have not shown that applying  
6 the *Flores* Agreement ‘prospectively is no longer equitable[,] (citation omitted) or  
7 that ‘manifest injustice’ will result if the Agreement is not modified.” July 9, 2018,  
8 Order at 7.  
9

10 III. LODESTAR CALCULATION.  
11

12 A “lodestar” figure for the amount of fees Plaintiffs should recover is  
13 calculated by multiplying the number of hours counsel reasonably dedicated by the  
14 inflation-adjusted EAJA hourly rate. *Hensley v. Eckerhart*, 461 U.S. 424, 433, 103  
15 S. Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d 40 (1983).<sup>5</sup>  
16

17 The inflation-adjusted EAJA base rates for the periods counsel worked on the  
18 instant matter appear at  
19 [www.ca9.uscourts.gov/content/view.php?pk\\_id=0000000039](http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/content/view.php?pk_id=0000000039) (last visited May 22,  
20 2019).<sup>6</sup>  
21  
22

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>5</sup> An increase over the base rate to account for inflation is granted in all but unusual  
25 circumstances. *Animal Lovers Vol. Assn. v. Carlucci*, 867 F.2d 1224, 1227 (9th Cir.  
1989).

26 <sup>6</sup> Prior to 1996 the EAJA set a base rate of \$75 per hour. 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(2)(A)  
27 (1994). In 1996 Congress increased the base rate to \$125 per hour for cases  
28 commenced on or after March 29, 1996. *Sorenson v. Mink*, 239 F.3d 1140, 1145  
(9th Cir. 2001).



1 The hours counsel devoted to prosecuting this action, adjusted for time that  
2 was poorly documented or excessive, appear in the itemized time records annexed  
3 to the declarations of Plaintiffs' counsel. Schey Dec. ¶ 10 and Exhibit A;  
4 Declaration of Virginia Corrigan, May 2, 2019, Exhibit 2 ("Corrigan"); Declaration  
5 of Rachel Leach ("Leach"), Exhibit 3; Declaration of Laura Diamond ("Diamond"),  
6 Exhibit 4.<sup>7</sup> These hours multiplied by the Court's inflation-adjusted base rates yield  
7 a lodestar fee request of \$ \$42,359.00.

8  
9 As will be seen, however, the Court should award Class Counsel fees at  
10 hourly rates above the inflation-adjusted EAJA rate.

11  
12  
13 IV. SPECIAL FACTORS WARRANT A FEE AWARD AT MARKET RATES FOR PLAINTIFFS'  
14 SENIOR COUNSEL.

15 The EAJA authorizes the Court to award attorney's fees at market rates  
16 where there is a "limited availability of qualified attorneys for the proceedings  
17 involved," or where plaintiffs' counsel possess "distinctive knowledge" and  
18 "specialized skill" that was "needful to the litigation in question" and "not available  
19 elsewhere at the statutory rate." *Thangaraja v. Gonzales*, 428 F.3d 870, 876 (9th  
20 Cir. 2005); *see also Pierce v. Underwood*, 487 U.S. 552, 572, 108 S. Ct. 2541, 101  
21

22  
23  
24 The Court's calculations appear to adjust the 1996 rate for inflation. Since this  
25 action commenced in 1985, it would appear the applicable base rate is \$75 per hour.  
26 Inflation adjustments to the \$75 rate appear in Exhibit C to the Declaration of Peter  
27 Schey, *supra*. They differ little from the Court's hourly rates.

28 <sup>7</sup> Time spent preparing the instant EAJA motion is also compensable. *See Prandine v. National Tea Co.*, 585 F.2d 47, 54 (3d Cir. 1978); *Stanford Dailey v. Zurcher*, 64 F.R.D. 680 (N.D. Cal. 1974).

1 L.Ed.2d 490 (1988) (“Examples . . . would be an identifiable practice specialty such  
2 as patent law, or knowledge of foreign law or language.”).

3  
4 In *Nadarajah v. Holder*, 569 F.3d 906, 912 (9th Cir. 2009), this Court held  
5 this test satisfied where counsel had “distinctive knowledge and specialized skill in  
6 immigration law and, in particular, constitutional immigration law and litigation  
7 involving the rights of detained immigrants.” *See also Fang v. Gonzales*, No. 03-  
8 71352, 2006 WL 5669901, \*3 (9th Cir. Oct. 30, 2006) (Unpub. Disp.) (“Counsel  
9 Smith’s specialized skills and distinctive ‘knowledge of . . . particular, esoteric  
10 nooks and crannies of immigration law,’ ... enabled her to ... to succeed in obtaining  
11 relief from removal for Fang,” *quoting Muhur v. Ashcroft*, 382 F.3d 653, 656 (7th  
12 Cir. 2004)). This Court accordingly awarded the prevailing party’s most  
13 experienced attorney fees at \$500 per hour. 569 F.3d at 912-15.  
14  
15

16  
17 In *Orantes-Hernandez v. Holder*, 713 F. Supp. 2d 929 (C.D. Cal. 2010), the  
18 Government moved to dissolve an injunction requiring immigration authorities to  
19 follow specific procedures when detaining, processing and removing Salvadoran  
20 nationals. The court largely denied the motion, and the plaintiffs sought EAJA fees  
21 at market rates because defending against the Government’s motion required  
22 specialized knowledge of, *inter alia*, the history of the litigation that had resulted in  
23 the injunction. *Id.* at 959-60.  
24  
25

26  
27 The district court awarded fees at \$625-675 for senior counsel. *Id.* at 964. In  
28 addition to requiring special knowledge of immigration law and procedure, the

1 court held, the prevailing parties’ counsel has *specialized knowledge of the*  
2 *proceedings that had led to the entry of the challenged injunction, id.* at 960, and  
3  
4 had specialized skills—including proficiency in Spanish—that were necessary to  
5 defend the injunction. *Id.*

6 **A. Plaintiffs’ Class Counsel possess distinctive knowledge and**  
7 **specialized skill that was needful to the litigation.**  
8

9 As in *Orantes* and *Nadarajah*, Plaintiffs’ counsel here have extensive  
10 experience, knowledge and specialized skill in immigration law, youth law, and  
11 more particularly, the rights of detained immigrant and refugee juveniles as they  
12 exist at the intersection of the Settlement, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub.  
13 L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (“HSA”), the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims  
14 Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, 110 Pub. L. 457, 122 Stat. 5044  
15 (“TVPRA”), and the United States Constitution.  
16  
17

18 First, Plaintiffs’ counsel are highly skilled litigators with vast expertise in  
19 representing immigrants, refugees and youth.  
20

21 Plaintiffs’ class counsel Schey has knowledge and highly specialized skill in  
22 immigration law, and in particular, the rights of immigrant and refugee children.  
23 See Exhibits 1 and 2. As reflected in his declaration, class counsel in this case is  
24 among the leading attorneys in the nation litigating cases involving the rights of  
25 immigrants and refugees. He has successfully litigated multiple statewide and  
26 nationwide class actions cases involving the rights of immigrant youth for over 35  
27  
28

1 years. *Id.*

2 Here, prosecuting Plaintiffs' action required specialized expertise in  
3 immigration law and the *Flores* Agreement to the interpretation of federal consent  
4 decrees as these distinct areas of the law affect a discrete and otherwise defenseless  
5 subclass: immigrant and refugee youth in federal detention facilities. Distinctive  
6 knowledge of the *Flores* Agreement, the meaning of its terms under federal  
7 immigration laws, and the Government's policies and practices in implementing the  
8 Agreement, as well as the ability to converse in Spanish, were necessary to the  
9 successful resolution of this litigation. *See* Schey Dec. ¶ 6.

13 Vindicating the rights of children in ICE custody required far more than skill  
14 in enforcing contracts: it required specialized expertise in the intersection of  
15 multiple sources of law as it affects a discrete and vulnerable subclass: immigrant  
16 and refugee youth in ICE custody. Opposing Defendants' effort to terminate the  
17 settlement for accompanied minors required a deep understanding of (i) the  
18 settlement itself, (ii) the negotiations that resulted in that agreement, (iii) the  
19 intersection of the settlement with other pertinent law, particularly § 235 of the  
20 William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, and (iv)  
21 Defendants' policies, practices and procedures affecting detained immigrant and  
22 refugee children were essential to affording the *Flores* plaintiffs a fair chance of  
23 overcoming Defendants' ex parte application seeking to effectively terminate the  
24 Settlement's protections for thousands of accompanied minors.

1           **B. Other qualified attorneys are unavailable.**

2           Further, few, if any, other lawyers in the country could or would have  
3  
4 successfully opposed Defendants' effort to terminate the Settlement for  
5 accompanied class members at the inflation-adjusted EAJA rate. Market rates for  
6 lawyers with skills and experience comparable to plaintiffs' Class Counsel are in  
7 the range of \$975 hourly.  
8

9           These factors warrant the Court's awarding attorney's fees at rates "in line  
10 with those prevailing in the community for similar services by lawyers of  
11 reasonably comparable skill, experience and reputation.'" *Nadarajah, supra*, 569  
12 F.3d at 916. *See also* Declaration of Carol Sobel, Exhibit 5, ¶¶ 22-24 (Peter Schey's  
13 market rate is \$975/hour).  
14  
15

16           Plaintiffs accordingly seek fees as reflected in the following table:

<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Hrs.</i>	<i>Hourly Rate</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Peter Schey	38	950	\$36,100
Virginia Corrigan	9	205.20	\$1,847
Laura Diamond	6	205.20	\$1,231
Rachel Leach	15.5	205.20	\$3,181

24           The total fees sought is \$42,359.00.

25  
26           **V. CONCLUSION**

27           For the foregoing reasons, this Court should award Plaintiffs attorneys' fees  
28

1 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) as herein requested.  
2  
3

4 Dated: June 7, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

5 CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS &  
6 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW  
7 Peter A. Schey  
8 Carlos Holguín

9 ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP  
10 Elena Garcia

11 LA RAZA CENTRO LEGAL, INC.  
12 Michael S. Sorgen

13 THE LAW FOUNDATION OF SILICON VALLEY  
14 LEGAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
15 Jennifer Kelleher Cloyd  
16 Katherine H. Manning  
17 Annette Kirkham

*Of counsel:*

18 YOUTH LAW CENTER  
19 Virginia Corrigan

20 /s/Peter Schey  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Peter Schey, declare and say as follows:

I am over the age of eighteen years of age and am a party to this action. I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. My business address is 256 S. Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057, in said county and state. [SEP]

On June 7, 2019 I electronically filed the following document(s):

- AMENDED NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES; MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION

with the United States District Court, Central District of California by using the CM/ECF system. Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system.

Dated: June 7, 2019

/s/Peter Schey

